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USSR COAL MINE CONSTRUCTION STEPPED UP

D. G. Onika

In 1949, coal mine constructors in the USSR fulfilled the state plan for construction and assembly work for the first time in a number of years. The plan was fulfilled for the coal ministry as a whole and for the majority of main administrations and coal combines. Glavkaragandashakhtostroy (Main Administration of Construction of Karaganda Mines), Glavvostokugolestroy (Main Administration of Construction of Eastern Coal Mines), and the Sredazugol', Karagandaugol', Donbassantratsit, and Sverdlovskugol' combines did not complete the plan.

The volume of work completed by mine construction organizations is 24.5 percent above that of 1948. This includes Glavkuzbassshakhtostroy (Main Administration of Construction of Kuzbass Mines), 90 percent; Glavdonbassshakhtostroy (Main Administration of Construction of Donbass Mines), 37 percent; Glavtsentroshakhtostroy (Main Administration of Construction of Central Mines), 41 percent. In spite of not fulfilling the 1949 plan, Glavkaragandashakhtostroy increased its volume of operation 46 percent over that of 1948.

Stalinugol', Voroshilovgradugol', Rostovugol', Kuzbassugol', Kemerovugol', Molotovugol', Chelyabinskugol', Vostsibugol', and Khabarovskugol' combines, which do a considerable part of their own construction, completed the year plan ahead of schedule.

The level of mechanization in sinking vertical shafts was 36.7 percent higher in 1949 than in 1948, and in cutting horizontal drifts it was 23.4 percent higher.

As a result of increased mechanization and improvement in organization, the rate for shaft sinking was 19 percent better in 1949 than in 1948, and the rate of cutting horizontal workings was 11.5 percent better. The monthly rate of shaft sinking was 40-42 meters for "Tsentral'no-Zavodskaya" Mine of Stalinshakhtovosstanovleniye (Stalin Mine Restoration) Trust, 30-37 meters for "Artem-Glubokaya" Mine of Rostovshakhtostroy Trust, 50 meters for the Mine imeni F. [illegible] in the Donbass, and 62 meters for "Vertikal'naya" Mine No 1 in Karaganda.

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In "Smorodinskaya" Mine No 45 of Mosshakhtostroy (Moscow Mine Construction) Trust, 954 meters of drifts were cut in 3 months, including 450.5 meters in July. In "Shirino-Sokol'nicheskaya" Mine No 34 of Mosshakhtostroy Trust, 870 meters of drifts were cut in 3 months, including 459 meters in August.

Although the plan for construction and assembly work was fulfilled in 1949, the plan to put the new mines into operation was not completed. The Donets, Moscow, and Karaganda basins lagged in particular. The managers of the mine construction organizations are responsible for this.

An inadequate number of workers and materials were provided for the construction of "Sofiya" Mine and Mine No 18 imeni Stalin of Stalinugol' Combine, "Tsentral'naya Belyanka" Mine of Voroshilovgradugol' Combine, "Sulyukta" No 6 of Sredazugol' Combine, "Yuzhno-Baturinskaya" Mine No 1 of Chelyabinskygol' Combine, "Poplevinskaya" Mine No 50 of Moskvougol' Combine, and for coal-cleaning plants connected with "Krivorozh'ye" Mine No 1-1-bis and the Mine imeni Stalin of Voroshilovgradugol' Combine.

The increase of capital investment in 1950 over 1949 will amount to 29 percent for the ministry as a whole.

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